

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 01048 240928Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8885  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 1048

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, ID  
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA

REF: 76 JAKARTA 15549

1. SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO FONMIN MALIK, INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE RED CROSS IS PLANNING NEW SURVEY OF DETAINEE CAMPS IN INDONESIA. I TOOK OCCASION DURING DISCUSSION WITH HIM TO URGE PUBLIC RELEASE OF ICRC FINDINGS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN MEETING WITH FONMIN MALIK JAN 21, OPPORTUNITY AROSE TO DISCUSS RECENT HIRC REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA AND FUTURE INDONESIAN INTENTIONS. HAVING PASSED HIM COPY OF REPORT, I EXPLAINED STATUTORY REQUIREMENT THAT STATE DEPARTMENT SUBMIT ANNUAL UNCLASSIFIED REPORTS TO CONGRESS AND MORE DETAILED REPORTS ON CERTAIN COUNTRIES AT REQUEST OF COMMITTEE. I EXPRESSED REGRET WE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE GIVE HIM ADVANCE NOTICE OF COMMITTEE'S INTENTION TO DECLASSIFY AND RELEASE REPORT. I FEARED RESULT HAD BEEN SOME DISTORTION OF REPORT IN LOCAL PRESS BASED ON NEWS FROM WASHINGTON. I HOPED HE WOULD FIND THAT ACTUAL REPORT WAS FAIR AND FACTUALLY CORRECT.

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3. INDONESIA WOULD CONTINUE, I SUGGESTED, TO FACE AT LEAST TWO PROBLEMS IN RELATIONS WITH CONGRESS ON THIS ISSUE. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WAS CLAIMING FAR LARGER TOTAL OF DETAINEES THAN GOI. WE BELIEVED GOI AUTHORITIES WERE GIVING US ACCURATE COUNT, BUT, IN ABSENCE OTHER CONFIRMATION, MANY DID NOT ACCEPT THESE FIGURES.

4. SECOND PROBLEM WAS CONTINUING DOUBT ABOUT WHAT GOVERNMENT

MEANT BY "RRLEASE," PARTICULARLY AFTER ADMIRAL SUDOMO'S STATEMENT ON DEC 1 ABOUT FURTHER RESETTLEMENT CENTERS. I HAVE FONMIN COPY OF CRITICISM OF DEPARTMENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT BY GROUP OF HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS FROM WIRELESS FILE OF JANUARY 18 TO PROVE MY POINTS.

5. IN CONNECTION WITH BOTH, I WONDERED WHETHER GOI HAD GIVEN FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO NEW VISIT BY ICRC TEAM. MATTER HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY NESSI OF ICRC WITH ADMIRAL SUDOMO LAST YEAR. PUBLIC RELEASE OF ICRC FINDINGS, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO NUMBERS AND RELEASES, WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL IN ESTABLISHING CREDIBILITY OF GOI.

6. IN RESPONSE, MALIK SAID THAT AGREEMENT HAD ALREADY BEEN GIVEN FOR THIRD ICRC INSPECTION TRIP TIO INDONESIA, QUOTE IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH UNQUOTE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED PROBLEM WITH STATISTICS, STATING HE WAS NOT HIMSELF SURE OF TOTAL. HE NOTED THAT GOI HAS BEEN RECEIVING CORRESPONDENCE FROM AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AND IS AWARE OF THEIR STATEMENTS. HE PROMISED TO TRY TO PROVIDE US WITH MORE INFORMATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS IN INDONESIA AND NOTED, IN THIS CONTEXT THAT, IN ADDITION TO DEC 1 RELEASE OF 2,500 DETAINEES, THERE WILL BE FURTHER RELEASES THIS YEAR.

7. RE RESETTLEMENT CAMPS, MALIK SAID HE HAD TOLD SUDOMO NOT TO MENTION FUTURE CAMPS SINCE THIS WOULD ONLY CREATE MORE PROBLEMS. (ACCORDING TO SUDOMO, QUESTION OF FUTURE RESETTLEMENT STILL UNDECIDED; SEE REF).

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8. RE RELEASES, HE SAID THAT, AS OFFICIAL OF PRIVATE RELIEF AGENCIES, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAMS OF ASSISTANCE TO THOSE RELEASED AND FOUND THAT MANY OF THEM QUOTE DO NOT WANT TO FACE SOCIETY AGAIN BECAUSE OF THEIR OF QUILT UNQUOTE. HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

9. SUBSEQUENT TO MY MEETING WITH MALIK, HE HAS COMMENTED PUBLICLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS PORTION OF PRESIDENT'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS. WHILE STATING THAT INDONESIA "WELCOMED THE PARTS OF CARTER'S SPEECH WHICH STRESSED HUMAN RIGHTS," MALIK ADDED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS COULD NOT BE "LIMITED TO THE QUESTION OF DETENTION," FOR POOR COUNTRIES, THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE, AND IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO "ASSIST IN RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE POOR" AND NOT LIMIT THEIR CONCERN TO THE QUESTION OF IMPRISONMENT.

10. COMMENT. CONVERSATIONS WITH MALIK OFTEN HAVE ELUSIVE QUALITY ABOUT THEM. HE IS NOT IN MAINSTREAM OF HUMAN RIGHTS

POLICY IN INDONESIA, ALTHOUGH WE KNOW HE HAS USED HIS  
INFLUENCE ON INDIVIDUAL CASES.

11. ICRC REPORT, THIS COULD PROVIDE GOI WITH OPPOR-  
TUNITY, IF IT WISHES TAKE IT, TO VERIFY CONDITIONS AND  
POLICIES IT CLAIMS NOW TO BE FOLLOWING. ICRC REPRESENTATIVE  
TOLD US ON JANUARY 24 THAT FIRST PHASE OF SURVEY WILL  
BEGIN JANUARY 25 AND END FEBRUARY 17. HIS COMMENTS ARE  
BEING REPORTED SEPTEL.  
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## Message Attributes

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